GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3885
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2005
DEVELOPMENT WORK IN FOREST AREAS
Gowda Shri D.V. Sadananda

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the activities like Rural Roads, Small Bridges and Culverts etc. is proposed to be included in the list of permissible activities to be undertaken on the diverted forest land; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIA, RAJA)

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests on 03.01. 2005, has granted general approval for diversion of not more than one hectare of forest land in each case, for executing public utility works like schools, dispensary/hospital, electric and telecommunication lines, drinking water, rainwater harvesting structure, minor irrigation canal, non-conventional sources of energy, skill up-gradation/vocational training centre, power sub stations, communication posts and police establishments l i k e police stations/outposts/watch towers,by government departments.The activities like rural roads, small bridges and culverts are not included in the general approval. Diversion of forest land for these activities will require prior approval from the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. For this, the concerned user agency is required to submit the proposal in the prescribed format alongwith all relevant information/documents, through the concerned State/Union Territory Government, to the Central Government.